

ENGLAND
RUGBY LEAGUE



ENGLAND VS JAMAICA

KNIGHTS



SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 2019 KO 3PM | EMERALD HEADINGLEY STADIUM

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

WELCOME...

...to the Emerald Headingley Stadium for this historic fixture – the first international between two northern hemisphere nations who are polar opposites in terms of their rugby league development.

The England representative side dates back to 1904, a whole century before the formation of the Jamaica Rugby League Association and 105 years before Jamaica's first full international against the USA in Jacksonville, Florida.

As the island's domestic game continues to grow, today's match is another important landmark in Jamaica's international journey – a journey that will take them all the way to the 2021 Rugby League World Cup. It was in Jacksonville last year that the Jamaicans defeated the US to secure their first ever World Cup appearance.

England Knights were re-established in 2018 as part of the RFL's England Performance Unit (EPU), which is headed-up by local hero Kevin Sinfield and is focused on English success in 2021. "The Knights is an important part of the EPU as we build towards hosting the World Cup in 2021," explains Director of Rugby Kevin Sinfield.



"Kevin Sinfield, "It was a priority to find them meaningful competition again this autumn after the unique experiences they gained in Papua New Guinea last year.

"The way the Jamaica team has developed over the last few years to reach the World Cup has already been a bit of a rugby league fairy tale and it's great that the Knights can help them with their preparations for RLWC2021."

"This is an exciting opportunity for us as a team," adds Jamaica coach Jermaine Coleman, who grew up within Leeds' Jamaican community and went on to play for London Skolars.

"The effort that has gone into the journey so far has been unbelievable. We have a fantastic group of people involved with the team both on and off the field.

"We see this as our first steps in our preparation for the World Cup."

WELCOME FROM THE RFL CHIEF EXECUTIVE

RALPH RIMMER

It's a pleasure to write these notes ahead of an intriguing fixture between the England Knights and Jamaica – on what is a weekend full of excitement and significance, both for England and for international Rugby League.

I'm writing from Sydney, where I've been representing the Rugby Football League at the Congress and Annual Meeting of what is now officially known as International Rugby League – one of the early decisions was to rename and rebrand the Rugby League International Federation.

That might all sound a bit dry. But the international game really is developing quickly, all with the focus of the three World Cups we'll stage in England in 2021.

Of course the main focus should always be on what happens on the field. That's the main reason the IRL meeting was in Sydney – because this weekend, the Harbour City was staging the inaugural Downer World Cup Nines.

By the time you read these notes, you'll know how our England teams have performed. But however they have done on the field, it was a significant step forward in itself for us to send Men's and Women's squads to Australia for the same competition – wearing the same Hummel kit, and receiving the same performance fees.

There is a third England team currently in Australia – our Wheelchair team, who are on an historic five-



match Ashes tour which includes two Tests this week. They are a world-class team, who have gone to another level since being included in the England Performance Unit that we launched in 2018, shortly after the last World Cup. They showed that by becoming the first team ever to beat France, the reigning world champions, on home soil earlier this year. The Australia tour is a crucial part of the preparations for our England team to have a real crack at taking that world champion tag from France in 2021.

I mentioned the EPU there, and that brings me neatly to the Knights. Relaunching the Knights was a crucial part of the development of the EPU – providing that stepping stone between the Academy and Junior Academy teams, and full international status.

Their competitive return came in the unique environment of Papua New Guinea last autumn – two matches in Lae and Port Moresby, and an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

We've already seen the benefit of that in terms of player development, with Jack Hughes and Joe Philbin moving up to the senior Great Britain squad for the forthcoming Rugby League Lions tour.

And the exciting Knights squad that has been selected for this Jamaica fixture includes three members of the England Academy team who beat the Australian Schoolboys last winter – the Wigan pair of Harry Smith and Morgan Smithies, and Harry Newman

of Leeds who has already made a big impact at Emerald Headingley this season.

That's a great incentive for the current Academy team who were in action yesterday in Llanelli against Wales. In case you've lost count, that's five of our six EPU teams in action over the last few days – with Great Britain to return next week.

These really are exciting times for the international game.

The emergence of Jamaica, and their fairytale qualification for a debut World Cup appearance in 2021, is another great story in that regard.

Welcome to Romeo Monteith, the Jamaica players and officials, and the Jamaican supporters in the crowd today – in many cases, welcome to Rugby League. You'll love it!

That welcome goes out to all those at the ground, or watching the game through Our League, or reading these notes on-line.

Enjoy the Game!

BRILLIANCE COMES IN MANY FORMS



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JASON ROBINSON

MORE THAN A GAME:

Dual code superstar Jason Robinson proudly represents his family roots today as the Reggae Warriors' joint operations manager. Robinson, whose father is Jamaican, accepted the position after Jamaica's famous win against the USA in Florida.

"Not many people associate Jamaica with Rugby League, but this could be a great story for the 2021 World Cup," says Robinson. "The game has been played in Jamaica for a number of years now and there are a lot of players in England who are proud of representing their Jamaican heritage – as they showed with their performances in qualifying for the World Cup last year."

Today's game isn't just part of Jamaica's World Cup preparations, it also marks the process of engaging with Jamaican communities in the north of England and beyond.

"This game against the Knights is a great opportunity for the team to play in England," adds Robinson, "and there has already been a lot of work in terms of introducing the Jamaica Rugby League team to the many people with Jamaican heritage in England."



THE PRIDE IS BACK



INTRODUCING THE SQUADS



England Knights is part of a national performance pathway which includes the youth, academy and full international teams. And coach Paul Anderson today includes 12 new Knights in a 19-strong squad which has an average age of just 22.

Three teenagers who starred for England Academy in last autumn's win against the Australian Schoolboys may all feature: Harry Newman (Leeds) and Wigan duo Harry Smith and Morgan Smithies.

Joe Greenwood, Oliver Partington and Sam Powell complete a quintet of Wigan players, while Mikolaj Oledzki and Cameron Smith complete the Rhinos contingent.

Overall, 10 of the 2019 Betfred Super League's 12 clubs are represented, including Jack Ashworth and Niall Evals who were on opposite sides in Saturday's Betfred Super League Grand Final.

Jamaica's head coach Romeo Monteith and his assistant Jermaine Coleman have named a 20-man squad which includes one high-profile new recruit to the cause: long-serving Huddersfield Giants forward Michael Lawrence.

Lawrence's Giants team-mate Jordan Turner has also pledged his support to the Reggae Warriors in the build-up to 2021, although he is ruled out of the Knights fixture by injury.

There are two players from Duhaney Park Red Sharks, the Kingston club who have been Jamaica's domestic champions for the last seven years: Khamisi Mckain and Jenson Morris.

The squad also includes Bramley-born Ashton Golding, who was man of the match in the famous world cup qualifying victory over the USA, Ben Jones-Bishop of Wakefield Trinity and former Leeds University student James Woodburn-Hall who starred for Halifax in their run to the semi-finals of the Coral Challenge Cup.



DACIA

SHOP THE RANGE





ENGLAND 19 MAN SQUAD

Jack Ashworth
Rob Butler
Nial Evalds
Joe Greenwood
Toby King
Kruise Leeming
Tom Lineham
Darnell McIntosh
Greg Minikin
Harry Newman
Mikolaj Oledzski
Oliver Partington
Matt English
Sam Powell
Danny Richardson
Harry Smith
Cameron Smith
Morgan Smithies
Oliver Wilson



JAMAICA 20 MAN SQUAD

Mo Agoro
Jordan Andrade
Alex Brown
Joe Brown
Omari Caro
Mason Caton-Brown
Jymel Coleman
Joel Farrell
Ashton Golding
Greg Johnson
Ben Jones-Bishop
Michael Lawrence
Khamisi Mckain
Jon Magrin
Jenson Morris
Ross Peltier
Jodie Sherrife
Keenan Tomlinson
Danny Thomas
James Woodburn-Hall

ENGLAND QUIZ

How well do you know your nation? Here are 10 questions from the UK citizenship test - answers at the foot of the page.

20

1. Which was the last successful invasion of England?

Anglo-Saxon, Norman, Viking

20

2. What county does Stonehenge stand in?

Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire

3. What does the York Minster have?

Stained bricks, Stained glass, Stained limestone

4. What yearly event happens between Oxford and Cambridge Universities?

Basketball game, Football game, Rowing boat race

50

5. Which of these words is based on Norman words?

Apple, Cow, Park

50

6. Which of these is an Anglo-Saxon poem?

Beowulf, Jude the Obscure, Pride and Prejudice

7. Who built the Tower of London?

Oliver Cromwell, Queen Elizabeth I, William the Conqueror

20

8. Which king was executed in 1649?

Charles I, Charles II, James I

20

9. Where was William Shakespeare born?

Manchester, Oldham, Stratford-upon-Avon

10. Who was reigning in England when English settlers first began to colonise the eastern coast of America?

Charles II, Elizabeth I, Henry VIII

1. Norman 2. Wiltshire 3. Stained glass 4. Rowing boat race 5. Park 6. Beowulf 7. William the Conqueror 8. Charles I 9. Stratford-upon-Avon 10. Elizabeth I

JAMAICA QUIZ

Have a go at 10 questions from the Jamaican citizenship test - answers at the foot of the page.

1. How many official 'national heroes' does Jamaica have?

3, 5, 7

2. What is Jamaica's National fruit?

Pineapple, watermelon, ackee

3. What is Jamaica's motto?

'Out of many, we are one', 'Ya mon', 'Out of many, one people'

4. Jamaica gained independence in?

1952, 1962, 1972

5. Bob Marley died in which year?

1979, 1980, 1981

6. What is Jamaica's main language?

English, French, Spanish

7. What currency is used in Jamaica?

Jamaican Pound, Jamaican Dollar, US Dollar

8. What is Jamaica's national dish?

Ackee and saltfish, Fried chicken, Jerk chicken

9. What are the colours on the Jamaican flag?

Black, green and gold/Red, green and gold/Red, green and black

10. What is Jamaica's capital?

Kingston, Montego Bay, Spanish Town

1. 7, 2. Ackee 3. Out of many, one people 4. 1962 5. 1981 6. English 7. Jamaican Dollar 8. Ackee and saltfish 9. Black, green and gold 10. Kingston

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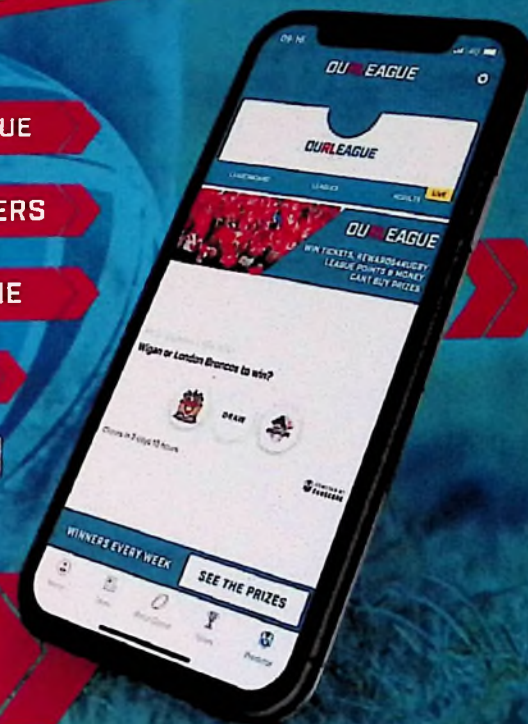
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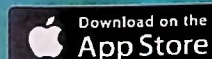
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